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XVII. *A Letter from John Huxham, M. D.*
F. R. S. to Cromwell Mortimer, M. D.
Secr. R. S. serving to accompany an Account
of the Case of one Hannah Hitchcock, one
of whose Ureters was grown up; a Present
of a beautiful Stalactites, now in the Museum
of the Royal Society; and a Drawing of
an extraordinary Calculus taken out of the
Bladder of a Boy.

Dear Sir,

Read Dec. 13. 1744. I HAVE now an Opportunity of sending you, inclosed, the Case of one *Hannah Hitchcock*; and a little Box, containing the Stones taken out of her Kidneys.

In the Box also I have sent one of the most remarkable *Stalactites* I ever saw. Perhaps it may be a Curiosity even to you. — It was found in a Cavern, that was discovered amidst the vast Marble Rocks at *Cat-down* near *Plymouth*. — It hung perpendicularly from the Top of the rocky Cavern, and was a cylindrical Tube of twenty Inches long at least; but was unluckily broke into several Pieces in Bring-ing to me. This I have sent was by much the longest of them; but Mr. *Long* (the Master of the Quarries) assured me the Whole was above twenty Inches long, and quite cylindrical, and quite hollow. — I went to the Cave the next Day, and found five or six of such Kind of Tubes, but none above two Inches long. — They all sprang from a broad, hollow, protuberating Basis, in some sort as a Nipple arises from the Breast. —

D d

These

Pains of the Stomach and Back, Suppression of Urine, and sometimes discharg'd bloody Urine. — She at length became ascitical and asthmatic; and, for more than eight or ten Weeks before she died, she had a violent Pain in the Region of the Stomach, and a hard Swelling under the *Cartilago ensiformis*, with almost perpetual Vomitings, colical Pains, extreme Costiveness, and Difficulty of Urine. The last Fortnight, or more, she vomited every thing, and had a total Suppression of Urine for fifteen Days. — At last, she died comatose and convuls'd.

Upon opening the *Abdomen*, soon after her Death, there neither appeared Stomach, Liver, or Guts, but a large irregular Mass, spread from one Side of the *Abdomen* to the other, and adhering firmly to both Sides. — This was, in great part, the *Omentum*, grown, as it were, cartilaginous, and as tough almost as Leather; having up and down in it, several large, very hard, scirrhouſ Nodes, and ſome Tuberclies, full of fetid *Pus*.

The Stomach was very much contracted, but its Coats were very thick; and, near the *Pylorus*, very much inflamed, almost mortified; its Glands, in ſeveral Places, scirrhouſ, and as large as Peas. — The Paſſage from the Stomach to the Guts was ſhut up, partly by the Inflammation and Thickneſs of its Coats, and partly by its odd Coalition with the Liver and *Omentum*.

The Liver was much shrunk and scirrhouſ, and roll'd up into a kind of conical Figure; in the *Vertex* of which appeared the Gall-bladder, of a dark-green Colour, and very turgid; and yet the *Ductus communis*

communis Cholodochus was near four times as large as usual.

The *Ilium* was thrust down much lower than ordinary; and the Convolutions of the Gut were, in several Places, grown firmly together: The *Colon* also, on both Sides, was strongly attach'd to the *Peritoneum*. 'Tis almost constantly observed, where the *Omentum* is either consumed, or greatly depraved, that the Convolutions of the Guts grow together, and adhere to the adjoining Parts, for want of that oily *Mucus*, which, in a natural State, in great Plenty transudes from the *Omentum*, to lubricate them, and render them fit for the regular Performance of the peristaltic Motion, &c.

In the Cavity of the *Abdomen* there were near six Quarts of putrid Water, somewhat ting'd with Blood — in the right Cavity of the *Thorax* about a Pint.

The urinary Bladder, quite empty, and half rotten, did not contain a Drop of Urine, but was smeared over with a sort of purulent Matter. In the right Kidney was found the bigger Stone, which took up almost all the *Pelvis renalis*. — In the right Ureter were two or three small Stones, which, with a sort of very tough *Mucus*, had shut its Passage intirely. — Indeed the great Stone in the *Pelvis* had well-nigh quite bung'd up the Mouth of the Ureter.

In the left Kidney was the smaller Stone, which had so entered the Ureter with its conical Part, as adequately to stop it, like a Cork in a Bottle. When we had removed this Stone (tho' we found no other in the Ureter), we could not force any Water thro' it

Fig. 1.

p. 158.

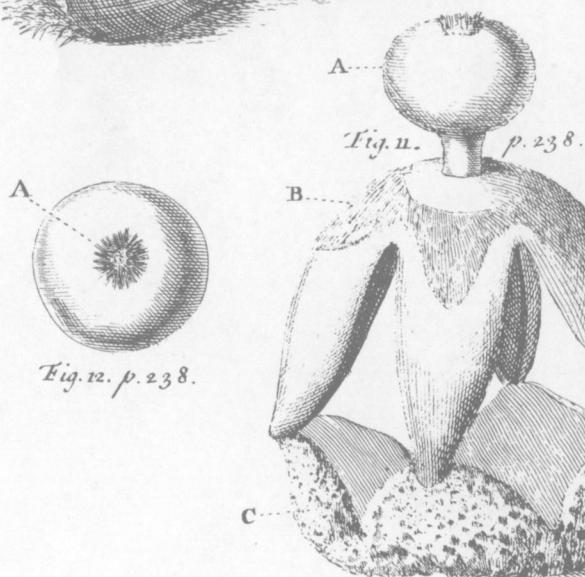
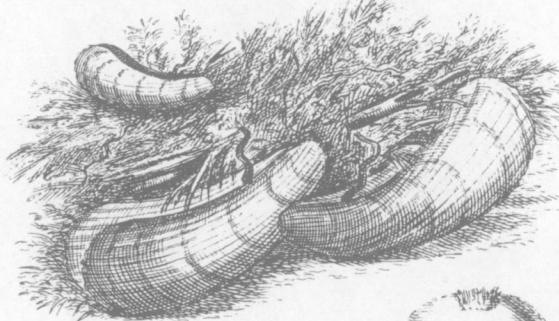


Fig. 12. p. 238.

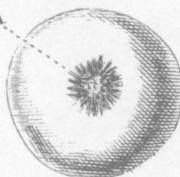
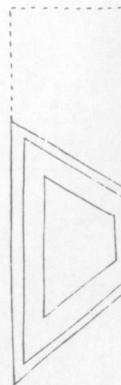


Fig. 8.

p. 195. 200.

Fig. 2. p. 160.



IMP·CAES·M·AVRE
SEVERO·ANTONI
PIO·FELICI·XXXG·PART
MAX·BRIT·MAX·GER
MAX·PONTIFICI·MA
TRIB·POTEST·XVIII·I
COS·III·PROCOS·PP·C
FIDA·WARDVL·CREO
NNANA·FECIT·SVB·
LEG·

Fig. 10. p. 208.

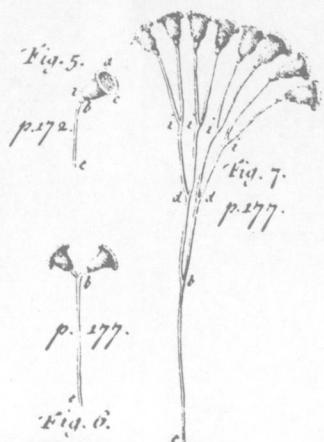


Fig. 5.

p. 172.



Fig. 7.
p. 177.



p. 177.



Fig. 9.

Fig. 2. p. 160.

IMP·CAES·M·AVRELIO
SEVERO·ANTONINO
PIO·FELICI·XXG·PARTHIC·
MAX·BRIT·MAX·GERM·
MAX·PONTIFICI·MAXIM·
TRIB·POTEST·XVIII·IMP·II·
COS·III·PROCONS·PP·COH·I·
FIDA·VARDVL·CREOANO
NNANA·FECIT·SVB·CVRA·
LEG·XX·GR

Fig. 3. p. 160.

MARTI
VICTORI
VLIVS LI
IVS TRIE
V·S·L·M.

Fig. 4. p. 160.

FORTVNAE
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Fig. 10. p. 208.

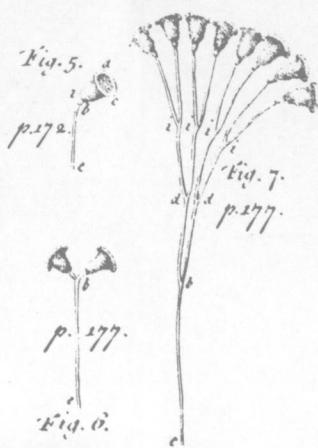


Fig. 9. p. 201.

DEO·HER
SAEGON
T·TAMMON
SAE·TAMMON
VITALIS
HON

